

## THE CLARION.

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## The Cyclone of Sunday Last.

## Appeal to the Masons and Odd Fellows.

JACKSON, Miss., April 23, 1883.

To the Masons and Odd Fellows of Mississippi: A cyclone at Beauregard and vicinity yesterday, and at Wesson, killed about 75 persons, destroyed the town of Beauregard and 25 houses at Wesson. Among the killed and wounded are several of our brethren. Their families will not be allowed to suffer, but it is your privilege, as it will be your pleasure, to contribute promptly to their relief. Do not wait till your lodge meets, but act at once. Forward to me at Jackson, and I will attend personally to its distribution. J. L. POWELL.

Grand Master of Odd Fellows, Grand Secretary of Masons.

THE druggists of Aberdeen have endorsed the call for a State Pharmaceutical Convention in June.

OUR people have responded promptly to the call for aid to the homeless and desolated people living in the track of the cyclone.

SENATOR DALTON "believes in strict party organization and at the same time the adoption of such measures as will insure to every Democrat a full voice."

COL. E. D. FROST, the new superintendent of the Jackson & Natchez Road, is winning golden opinions from the public, and all interested in it. Under his management, the business of the Road in all its departments, is operated with the regularity and precision of clock-work.

Is the death of Chancellor George Wood, the public have sustained a great loss. A suitable tribute to his memory from the ready pen of Col. Horne, of the Meridian Mercury—his friend of forty years standing—is published in another column.

## Heavy Sale of Timbered Lands.

One of the largest land transactions ever consummated in Mississippi was made last week by Messrs. Robinson & Lacey of New Orleans, for an Eastern syndicate, when they completed the entries for 50,000 acres of pine lands, located in the southern part of that State.

## Whitworth College.

The corner-stone of the annex to Whitworth College, will be laid on the 19th of June. The additions will be 146x75 feet and the laying of the corner-stone will be one of the most attractive features of Whitworth's next Commencement. A writer in the Summit Times says it is a grand enterprise of Dr. Johnson, one worthy of the untiring energy of the man; and its success will be a shining illustration of the truth, that which will be done can be done.

REFERRING to complaints that have been made against the Governor for commuting the sentence of Grant May colored, from hanging, to the Penitentiary for life, for an assault on a colored girl, the Brandon Republican, says that the action of Governor Lowry is approved by all parties in that section who know the facts in the case; that in the first place, Grant May is an idiot. In the second place, many people doubted his guilt, as the mother of the girl—the principal witness against him—is a notorious character, and refused to prosecute him until he refused to marry her. In the third place, the Judge who tried the case, all the officers of the Court except the District Attorney, all the lawyers except one firm, all the members of the Board of Supervisors, almost everybody in the neighborhood where the crime was committed, and nearly every other man to whom it was presented, signed a petition to the Governor to commute the sentence to imprisonment for life, because they believed the sentence was too severe under the circumstances.

## The Chalmers-Myers Decision.

The Supreme Court decides the mandamus case of Myers vs. Chalmers in favor of the Secretary of State.—Chickasaw Messenger.

"In favor of the Secretary" in the sense that it did not command him to issue a new certificate in place of the one based upon what has been shown to be an erroneous assumption, that J. R. Chalmers received 1472 votes, and were counted for him instead of Chalmers; but not in "his favor" so far as determining that it was legal for him to take the tally-sheet instead of the certified statement of the Commissioners of Election as evidence of the result of the election. In other words, the Court declared that it would do nothing; therefore it said nothing, except to demonstrate that it was powerless; that the commission having been issued on the Secretary's certificate, whether right or wrong, fully, it is irrevocable, and that it would not undertake to adjudicate where its judgment would be disregarded. The Court said: "If we should declare the commission illegal and void, we would transcend our legitimate functions and present the unseemly spectacle of a condemnation of the official act of the Chief Executive of the State." \* \* The Court will not do a vain thing. Evidently the apprehension of the Court that its judgment would not have been respected by our able-headed Chief Magistrate, is not warranted by anything he has ever done or said. Moreover, its decision to apply a remedy would not have implied a "condemnation" of him, for the obvious reason that the Governor has nothing whatever to do with summing up the certified returns and the commission is issued not on his own responsibility, but upon the certificate of the Secretary of State.

One other point is suggested for a word of remark. Some persons, too ready to draw on their imagination for their facts, have intimated that we are not as decidedly opposed to Gen. Chalmers' tergiversations as we might be. Considering the zeal and ability with which he served his constituency while in Congress as a Democrat, and the unwavering fidelity with which he was sustained by the Democracy, we have ever regarded his apostasy with mingled feelings of regret and detestation. None were more solicitous for his defeat as an Independent quasi Republican candidate, than we. THE CLARION had its hands pretty full with matters of pressing emergency nearer home, but it sent from its quiver an occasional arrow to the Second District. With its intelligent white majority, and the success of the gifted and eloquent Manning in other contests, we never questioned the certainty of an easy victory for him.

Always ready to give the benefit of the doubt to our party authorities, we were the last of the Democratic press to disapprove of the action of the Secretary of State in rejecting the certified statement of the Tate county Commissioners of Election that J. R. Chalmers received 1472 votes, which was essential, and accepting as the true return, the non-essential tally-sheet containing the name of J. R. Chalmers, and in disobeying the mandate of the Court to suspend the canvass until the Tate county Commissioners could have opportunity (not to make a new return) but to explain the apparent discrepancy of the first, especially as there were twenty days remaining under the law in which to issue his certificate. Our delay prompted the uncharitable innuendo of some esteemed contemporaries, that we were "an organ" and would not speak while the air was resonant with the voices of others. When we did speak (more in sorrow than in anger) it was the result of careful investigation and the unerring sober second thought. We saw that the Secretary of State had made the following summary of the vote of all the counties except Tate from the certified returns in his office:

Benton—Manning,	650	Chalmers,	753
Desoto,	1092	"	957
Leflore—	1115	"	1478
Marshall,	1229	"	2180
Patullo,	716	"	1924
Tallahatchie—	432	"	429
Tippecanoe,	1099	"	407
Union—	1241	"	154
	7,574		8,257

In addition to the foregoing, we saw that the statement signed by the Commissioners of Election in Tate county, gave J. R. Chalmers 1,472 votes, V. H. Manning 1,166; and that the Secretary of State disregarded the certified statement as to Chalmers' vote, and accepted the tally-sheet evidence that Chalmers received in that county the 1,472 votes which were cast and counted for Chalmers. If any doubt could have existed, there was no longer room for it, when within twenty-four hours after the alleged discovery, it was solved by the statement of the Tate Commissioners of Elections and the Clerks that if there was a discrepancy, it was inadvertent; that the votes were originally cast for Chalmers, counted for him by the precinct managers of election; and declared for him by the Commissioners. With this Alps of accumulated testi-

mony, there was no longer a pretext for even "an organ" to remain silent, especially "an organ" that had arraigned Kellogg for certifying that Louisiana had voted for Hayes, when all the world knew that she had given six thousand majority for Tilden.

It is charged that the alleged majority in the other counties of the Second District for Chalmers, are due to intimidation and frauds practiced by deputy marshals and supervisors under the federal election laws. That will be a matter for impartial and rigid investigation. The inviolability of elections must be maintained. The right of free election for many centuries has been held sacred by all English-speaking people; and the glory of Hancock, the Democratic candidate for President in 1880, was that he had the courage to vindicate it in the midst of arms, when passion raged like an unceasing beast thirsting for blood. THE CLARION has never spoken with "bated breath and whispered humbleness" in opposition to the federal election laws under which these alleged interferences were perpetrated.

## Gen. W. T. Martin and the Tariff.

We extract the following from the New Orleans Times-Democrat:

"Gen. W. T. Martin, of Mississippi, member of the democratic national committee, was interviewed by a correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette. Gen. Martin is reported as saying that the tariff issue will be one of the main questions of the next campaign so far as his State is concerned, and that Mississippi is in favor of protection, and would not support a free trade candidate. He says Mississippi is rapidly coming to the front as a manufacturing State, and therefore her people would like to see Gen. Hancock the standard-bearer of the democratic party, although Senator Bayard is a great favorite."

Gen. Martin, if he said what he is reported to have expressed, doubtless thinks he is correct in his statement. But it depends altogether upon what kind of protection he means, whether the people of Mississippi are in favor of it. If he means the principle of levying a high rate of duty merely for the purpose of protecting any industry, we are sure the people of Mississippi will not agree with him. They are not willing to pay an unnecessary tax for the support of manufacturers of any class of goods. But if he means the incidental protection to home manufactures that can be afforded by a tariff that will raise a revenue only sufficient for the support of the government, we do think he will find many in Mississippi and in all the other Southern States, who will agree with him.—Natchez Democrat.

It was on the motion of this writer that Gen. Martin was elected the member of the National Committee, from Mississippi, at the last National Democratic Convention. That Convention reaffirmed the declaration of the Convention of 1876, committing the party to a "Tariff for Revenue only." We understand our able contemporary the Natchez Democrat to be in favor of maintaining that doctrine. As for "incidental protection" it is a logical consequence of a tariff "for Revenue" but it is one thing to make "Revenue" the object of the tax, and quite another to make "protection" the object. The Democratic doctrine is that protection in the latter sense is unwarranted by the constitution, and unjust to the great mass of the producing population.

The indictment which was returned by the grand jury, charges Kellogg with having, in violation of the statutes, received money while a Senator, for services rendered in relation to a contract with the United States. There are five counts, charging five separate payments of \$1500 for one service rendered for expedition of the mail schedule on Price's routes from San Antonio to Corpus Christi, Texas, and from Monroe to Shreveport. Now, as Congress held the key to the treasury, and no robbery could have been committed if it had not made the appropriations, the question arises is he the only member that was bribed. Did, or did not, the contractors "go-snacks" with some of the rest? The country knows how many of them swallowed the Credit Mobilier bait.

ON and after May 1, the internal revenue tax on tobacco and snuff will be reduced one-half, from sixteen to eight cents per pound, and on all tobacco and snuff in unbroken packages, on which the old tax has been paid, the excess will be refunded by the Government. The tax on cigars and the larger cigarettes is reduced to three dollars per thousand.

THE Canton Picket says that Messrs. Henry V. Yandell, Alphonzo Stanford and Walter Sanders left Saturday night for Mexico, where they go prospecting, and may possibly pitch their tents for good. We hope they will come back and stand by the old State. She is as good as any, and needs all of her sons.

REV. C. G. ANDREWS, D. D., ex-president of Centenary College, will preach the commencement sermon at East Mississippi Female College, May 27, and Gen. Robert Lowry, Governor of Mississippi, will deliver the annual address, May 30.

## Centre-Shots.

The San Francisco Examiner says there is no denying that the anti-monopoly issue is the one absorbing feature in the politics of the country. Every thing else is subordinate to it. Other questions affect only the general interests of the country. Monopoly paralyzes business enterprises in all directions. Its influence is felt in every walk and condition in life. The farmer is oppressed by it. The merchant sees in it an incessant menace to his standing and credit. Wages are diminished and poverty and penury are the fatal blights which it distributes.

The same orthodox contemporary echoes what is in the people's heart, in saying we want a candidate for the Presidency who is opposed to monopoly; who believes in a tariff for revenue only; who will protect the public domain against the spoliation of corporations; who will reform the civil service; who will lessen the internal revenue taxes; who will bar down the restrictions which fetter commerce, and open foreign markets to the teeming products of the country.

The Indianapolis News says that the system of protection is simply the system of paying bounties to men to engage in business. That is just it and the whole of it. Workingmen should understand this thoroughly. There is no bounty paid to them, nor any part of the bounty set aside for wages. The bounty is paid to the owner of the plant or industry, who gets his labor just as he does his material at the lowest price he can in the market.

And pursuing the same idea, the N. Y. World says that revenue reform must be, whether any politicians like it or not, the chief subject of discussion at the next session of Congress, and must enter into the next canvass for the presidency, even if it is not to be the controlling issue in that canvass.

The Richmond (Va.) Dispatch says that Mr. Randall holds the same opinions he did when for six years he was the Democratic Speaker of that same House. He holds the same opinions he did when in that same House he battled 48 hours without sleep against the force bill with which the Radicals were attempting to bind the South. Ah, how grandly he led our leaders, and how grateful to him we felt at that time.

CONGRESSMAN Wm. R. Springer, of Illinois, who was in attendance at the Jefferson birthday celebration in Chicago, says that the meeting was not in the interest of any presidential candidate, and as far as he knew, no preference for any individual candidate was expressed. The only object was to enunciate democratic principles, and to voice the sentiment of the party on the great questions of the day. There was an overwhelming sentiment, however, in favor of a tariff for revenue only, and it was his conviction that the representatives of the north-west would demand the insertion of this plank in the platform of the next democratic national convention. By the way, Mr. Springer would not be bad timber for Speaker. He has parliamentary experience, and is sound politically as a dollar of the daddies.

## The Enterprise Courier's Denial.

Enterprise Courier.] The Aberdeen Examiner may be correct in regard to the sentiment of the people of Aberdeen and vicinity in regard to railroad supervision, but we emphatically deny its authority to speak for the people of this part of East Mississippi. If there is a sentiment against railroad supervision from West Point to the Gulf coast it is kept dark. The people in this section are outspoken in favor of supervision of corporations within constitutional limits, and they demand legislation to carry out their wishes.

THE railroads centering at Dallas, Tex., which have been hauling cotton at almost any price, formed a pool Saturday and established the following rate: St. Louis, 85 cents per 100; New York, \$1.10; Liverpool, \$1.30, thereby proving that there is never competition where combination is possible. Legislative supervision, is the only safe reliance for keeping freights and fares within legitimate bounds.

JOHN SCOTT, President of the New Orleans and North-eastern Railway, states that the entire line of the North-eastern Railway will be finished by September 1. Orders for locomotives have been given and bids invited for the construction of cars and all the necessary appurtenances for a thorough equipment of the road.

POST MASTERS-GENERAL GRESHAM is reported to have directed that in making postoffice appointments in Mississippi the recommendations of ex-Congressman Chalmers shall be given no greater weight than may be properly attached to them as the recommendation of a private citizen.

## LETTER FROM EAST MISSISSIPPI.

## "Is It True?"

TO THE EDITORS OF THE CLARION:—In your last issue there appeared a short editorial, at the head of which stood the above question, "Is it true," and you quote from the Aberdeen Examiner the following: "The people of East Mississippi do not recognize the matter of State railroad supervision as a question of politics," to which you reply "may be not."

I am not only the personal friend of the editor-in-chief of the Examiner, but have the greatest admiration for his pure, spotless character; his bright and sparkling intellect; his extensive and useful information upon almost every question, and his unswerving devotion to the principles of the Democratic party and good government; and there is no gentleman with whom I would venture to take issue with greater diffidence than with the editor of the Examiner; but I must think he is mistaken upon this question. I think the Democratic voters of East Mississippi do recognize as a fact, that railroad corporations should be supervised by legislative authority in the interest, and for the protection of, the people of the State, such supervision to be exercised of course within constitutional limits.

I think it is almost unanimously conceded by the "people of East Mississippi" that the Democratic party in the State conventions of 1877 and 1881 voiced the real sentiment of the people of the State on that question, but that the public servants of the people have failed to carry out the wishes of the people in this respect. And it may be, that because "the people of East Mississippi" have quietly submitted this long to railroad extortions on one side, and broken promises on the other that our friend concludes "the matter of State railroad supervision" is not recognized in this part of the State "as a question of politics," but we will see that it will be an issue in the canvass just ahead of us, and that candidates for the Legislature will be required to define their positions, without any equivocation whatever on this question. Also that, the candidate who opposes railroad supervision, will be elected to stay at home.

Important, and very large privileges are granted to railroad corporations, not the least of which is the right, within constitutional limits, and under proper legal restrictions, to take private property and appropriate it for their benefit and to their use. These rights and privileges are conferred upon railroads, presumably at least "in the interest of the people" for the good of the many. Now if the State has the power to take from me my land and grant it to a railroad in the interest of the people, has it not the power also to compel that railroad to be operated in such a way that it will not do violence to "the interest of the people?" The constitution will only allow the State to take my land "in the interest of the people;" it can not be taken for the purpose of wronging and oppressing the people, and it is clearly the duty of the State to see, that after my land has been taken and applied to this public use, the railroad does not use it to the injury of the people. But the State can only exercise its authority, through the enforcement of public laws, and can only protect the people from injury and oppression by enacting and then enforcing proper laws. There is no law in this State adequate to the protection of the interest of the people against railroad exactions and extortions. And it is a notorious fact that at least some railroads in this State are not operated in the interest of the people and that they are now in the enjoyment of prosperity, which was taken from private citizens, and given to them in the interest of the people, that is to promote the general good, but as used by said railroads it is promoting the general harm and injury. And yet there are those, who say there is not enough sovereignty in the people of the State to control these creatures of the State and to prevent them from destroying the State. That the creature is more powerful than the creator! Away with such a doctrine. It cannot be supported by principle nor sustained by authority. It is the doctrine of tyrants and the argument of usurpers. "The people of East Mississippi" are in full accord, and in exact harmony with the declaration of the Democratic party, that "corporations are supervised by legislative authority, within constitutional limits in the interest and for the protection of the people," but they do not approve the failure of their public servants to enact a law in accordance with their expressed wish in this behalf.

## EAST MISSISSIPPI DEMOCRAT.

OWING to displacement of the manuscript the publication of the truthful and beautiful tribute to the memory of the late Mr. James C. Baskins, a patriarch of Madison county, was delayed until our present issue.

## The Late Mr. E. R. Steadman.

The very large concourse which attended the obsequies of the late Mr. Steadman, of this city, and the breathless attention and appreciation of the eloquent and impressive funeral course of the Rev. Dr. Galloway, describing his many virtues and achievements from his life bright examples for us—is the highest tribute that could be paid to the good citizen whose noble man whose valuable life has been closed in the midst of his usefulness. Mr. Steadman was the son of a distinguished clergyman. He was born in 1834, and in his young manhood removed, we believe, to Virginia, to Jackson, where he soon came to himself in the confidence of the mercantile business conducted, and strictest business principles. He was a living exemplification of the rule, "To thyself be true, and thou shalt be true to all." He was true to himself and to his own, but he was a man, and loved to do good. His energy was uniring, and he looked on the sunny side of life, yielding up his life without a shadow of the grave. Thus he thus died E. R. Steadman. His heart is chilled and pulsing, his good name and generous deeds will live after him.

## An Important Question.

Columbus Index. But little mention is made of Gen. Reagan, of Texas, given Government control of the commerce, and yet we consider most important question now before country. "There seems to be a necessity of putting the great lines under the supervision of government. They are becoming more and more powerful; if they are not they can absorb the profits of the commerce by excessive freight charges, are combining to that end almost the great railway kings are possessing themselves of all the lines. The country will soon be a mere of these corporations unless Congress does something to check greed." This is the language of Reagan in a late interview with Times-Democrat. He says that these great railways have come in the House and especially in the Senate, and that body being a more readily reached by these influences.

HON. WM. BUCHANAN is a candidate for re-election to the Legislature, is so well known in this country, needs no introduction from us. He served one term in the Legislature, we have never heard a word of complaint at his course. He is a tall, intelligent and patriotic gentleman, has the interest of his country at heart, and a Democrat in the truest sense of the word, a Republican.

This is a deserved compliment of the worthiest members of the Legislature, as able and fearless, as honest and unassuming.

## Vice President Clarke's Good Canton Citizen.]

Col. J. C. Clarke has shown his good taste in naming a station "Benton," in honor of Mrs. W. I. Green, of Jackson, a beautiful woman who will appreciate the compliment such a namesake. She was named her father in honor of Thomas Benton, the great statesman, and Christian.

The Hancock County Board of Health has adopted, among other resolutions the following:

Resolved, That the action of the National Board of Health in the past, demands the unequalled endorsement of the Board of Health of Mississippi, be it further

Resolved, That the President of the United States be, and is hereby requested to entrust the expenditure of the tincting epidemic fund of \$100,000, the National Board of Health.

## A Record Without a Blame.

Brandon Republican.] Hon. J. D. W. Duckworth, member of the last Legislature from Rankin county, has a record without a spot or blemish. He is one of our well-to-do men, who raises his provisions at home, takes his county paper, pays for it, and keeps himself posted on all subjects of interest.

THE Newton Free-Press says the people would like to hear from all legislative candidates on the subject of legislation in regard to railroads, and the advisability of submitting to the people a change in the constitution, in reference to the election of the judges, whether it shall be appointive, or by the Legislature, or elected by people.